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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,738	10/30/2003	Charles Dudley Copper	18094	9052

7590 04/15/2005

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EXAMINER

VU, HIEN D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 04/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/697,738	Applicant(s) COPPER ET AL.	
	Examiner Hien D. Vu	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-10, 12-17, 19-21 and 24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7, 11, 18, 22, 23 and 25-39 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-10, 12-17, 19-21 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. Applicant's election without traverse of species 1, figs. 1-5 claims 1-6, 8-10, 12-17, 19-21 and 24 in paper dated 1/20/05 is acknowledged.

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the features the latch and tab members adjoining one another in claim 9, line 2. must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. Claim 9 is objected to because it is unclear how the latch and tab members could adjoin to one another.

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4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

5. (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-17, 19-21 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nurmi (251).

The disclosure of Nurmi provides a complete response to each and every element set forth in the claims. For example, figs. 2a-3a show a conductor 20 comprising a series of arch shaped elements that are continuously formed with one another and extend along a center line (not labeled).

As to claim 2, the arch-shaped elements are pitched at an acute angle with respect to the centerline.

As to claim claim 3, the arch-shaped elements are arranged in separate parallel planes that are oriented at an acute angle with respect to the centerline.

As to claim 4, each said arch-shaped element includes a pair of opposed leg portions having first ends joined to a bridge portion and having second ends spaced apart to form an opening therebetween.

As to claim 5, each said arch-shaped element has leg portions provided along opposite sides of the contact, and the leg portions of adjacent arch-shaped elements are joined to one another at linking portions.

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As to claim 6, the arch-shaped elements have leg portions, the leg portions of adjacent arch-shaped elements being joined to one another on alternating sides of the arch-shaped elements.

As to claim 8, the arch-shaped elements and the centerline are arranged in a linear geometry.

As to claim 10, each arch-shaped element includes a bridge portion and leg portions, the leg portions being separated to provide an open bottom.

As to claims 12-17, 19-21 and 24, the claims have a similar features as claims 1-6, 8 and 10, therefore they are rejected under the similar rationale.

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nurmi (251) in view of Chen.

Insofar as the claim can be understood, Nurmi does not show the conductor having a latch and tab members at opposite ends. Chen, Fig. 1 shows a conductor 12 having latch and tab numbers 18, 16 at opposite ends. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of Nurmi by forming the conductor with latch and tab members at opposite ends, as taught by Chen, in order to provide

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connections for the conductor. It is noted that the latch and the tab members could be adjoined to one another.

9. Yoshinaga et al, Nurmi (423), Plummer et al, Balsells, Kunkel, May et al and Creze are cited for disclosure of electrical connectors having electrical contacts.,

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hien D. Vu at telephone number (571) 272-2016.

Vu/ds

04/06/05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hien Vu", with a stylized, cursive script.

HIEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER